

IAP17 Rec'd PCT/PTO 23 DEC 2005

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as shown below, in which deleted terms are shown with strikethrough and added terms are shown with underscoring. Also, please add new claims 9-12 shown below.

1. (Currently amended) A light guide having an end face, an emitting face and two internal side faces, and which emits lights incident ~~from an~~ on the end face from ~~[[an]]~~ the emitting face ~~disposed along the longitudinal direction~~ extending longitudinally of the guide, while ~~having~~ the lights are reflected by the ~~[[two]]~~ internal side faces ~~thereof~~, ~~characterized in that the~~ wherein sectional shapes of said two internal side faces are oval arc curves or paraboloid curves, and ~~[[the]]~~ a concentrating position of lights reflected by one side face and ~~[[the]]~~ a concentrating position of lights reflected by the other side face are different from each other.

2. (Currently amended) The light guide according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said light guide is ~~unitarily~~ integrally formed as a unitary member.

3. (Currently amended) The light guide according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said light guide ~~is configured by sticking together~~ includes two half pieces connected together, and oval arcs or paraboloids, which constitute reflective faces, are formed on the half pieces.

4. (Currently amended) The light guide according to Claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a light scattering part is formed in ~~the joining~~ connecting faces of said half pieces together.

5. (Currently amended) A light guide having an end face, an emitting face and two internal side faces, and which emits lights incident ~~from an~~ on the end face from ~~[[an]]~~ the emitting face ~~disposed along the longitudinal direction~~ extending longitudinally of the guide, while ~~having~~ the lights are reflected by the ~~[[two]]~~ internal side faces ~~thereof~~, ~~characterized in that the~~ wherein sectional shapes of both of said two internal side faces are oval arc curves, and ~~[[the]]~~ a difference in focal distance between the oval arc curves ~~makes the~~ causes concentrating positions of reflected lights to be different.

6. (Currently amended) A light guide having an end face, an emitting face and internal side faces, and which emits lights incident ~~from an~~ on the end face from ~~[[an]]~~ the emitting face ~~disposed along the longitudinal direction~~ extending longitudinally of the guide, while ~~having~~ the lights are reflected by the internal side faces thereof, ~~characterized in that the~~ wherein sectional shapes of the internal side surfaces have two oval arc curved areas, and ~~[[the]]~~ concentrating positions of reflected lights differ~~[[s]]~~ from one oval arc curve to the other.

7. (Currently amended) An image reader characterized in that an illuminating unit comprising the light guide according to ~~any of Claim 1 through Claim 6~~ , a light source provided at an end face ~~thereof a light source~~ of the light guide, and a lens array for converging on a light receiving element lights radiated from ~~[[this]]~~ the illuminating unit toward a document and reflected by the document or transmitted by the document ~~are built into~~ , and a box housing the illuminating unit, the lens array and the light receiving element.

8. (Currently amended) The image reader according to Claim 7 ~~characterized in that~~ including two ~~[[sets]]~~ of said illuminating units ~~are arranged~~, and the illuminating units are so arranged as to cause lights emitted from the emitting faces of the light guides thereof to irradiate the same area of ~~[[the]]~~ an illuminated face ~~to be read~~ of the document.

9. (New) An image reader characterized in that an illuminating unit comprising the light guide according to Claim 5, a light source provided at an end face of the light guide, and a lens array for converging on a light receiving element lights radiated from the illuminating unit toward a document and reflected by the document or transmitted by the document, and a box housing the illuminating unit, the lens array and the light receiving element.

10. (New) The image reader according to Claim 9 including two of said illuminating units, and the illuminating units are so arranged as to cause lights emitted from the emitting faces of the light guides thereof to irradiate the same area of an illuminated face of the document.

11. (New) An image reader characterized in that an illuminating unit comprising the light guide according to Claim 6, a light source provided at an end face of the light guide, and a lens array for converging on a light receiving element lights radiated from the illuminating unit toward a document and reflected by the document or transmitted by the document, and a box housing the illuminating unit, the lens array and the light receiving element.

12. (New) The image reader according to Claim 11 including two of said illuminating units, and the illuminating units are so arranged as to cause lights emitted from the emitting faces of the light guides thereof to irradiate the same area of an illuminated face of the document.